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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/509,969	10/01/2004	Michael Thomas Hauke	PU020085	9986

7590 02/12/2009
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EXAMINER

YENKE, BRIAN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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02/12/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/509,969	Applicant(s) HAUKE ET AL.	
	Examiner BRIAN P. YENKE	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 October 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 8, 12-21 and 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Der Wal et al., US 6,188,381.

In considering claims 1, 12, 15 and 21,

a)-b) the claimed a first module...is met by processor motherboard (PM) 10 (which include signal processors 1-4 (Fig 1) which communicate with Video Processor Motherboards (20) (Fig 1, col 5, line 66 to col 7, line 31) (i.e. the second module) using the global control bus 40 and the global video bus 30. Van Der Wel discloses the use of a non-volatile memory 338 which is used for program and data storage for embedded startup and execution (col 15, line 49-67), which allows the system to be changed based on the requirements for the application program (col 18, line 12-55).

In considering claims 2 and 8, 13-14, 16-17 and 19-20,

As stated above the PM 10 determines/detects which VPM's to activates in order to determine which program(s)/hardware/software to control based upon startup and execution.

In considering claim 23,

As disclosed by Van Der Wal, only the software/hardware that is required is utilized, thereby inhibiting access to all but said claimed least predetermined one of the processing characteristics.

In considering claim 24,

Refer to claim 2 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 3-7, 9-11, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Der Wal et al., US 6,188,381.

In considering claims 3-5 and 6, 18 and 22,

Van Der Wal does not specifically disclose the components of the system including an personality pin, coupling characteristic , LUT measurement/comparison, or field programmable gate array.

Van Der Wal discloses a system which includes a primary motherboard 10 which includes 4 digital signal processor's which control for display a variety of video processor motherboards 20 utilizing the global control bus 40 and the global video bus 30. Thus it would have been obvious to use active and/or passive circuitry in the design of the modular parallel-pipelined vision system , since the designer has to active/passive components which are available off the shelf.

The detection/determination of modules based upon a node potential, coupling characteristic, or LUT measurement/comparison which provide the designer available methods/devices in monitoring/detection controlling the system.

In considering claims 7, 9 and 10,

Van Der Wal discloses the various embodiments of a active/passive combination backplanes and also the use of passive backplanes where it is thus known that the use of active and/or passive only components in the design of a system is optional/design choice, being obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

In considering claim 11,

Van Der Wal discloses the term video in the disclosure, but does not explicitly recite the conventional accommodation of audio where it is known that based upon the type of video signal utilized, the accompanying audio would be beneficial and thus processed by a system, or alternatively on

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providing the audio for sound/music application would obviously be an obvious implementation to one of ordinary skill in the art.

In considering claim 18,

The selling price of a unit in regards to access, is not inventive since compatibility between modules, if they are connected will have access based on the module type and input/output characteristics, price being a factor which changes the unit's cost, not the compatibility between devices.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure—see newly cited references on attached form PTO-892.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Yenke whose telephone number is (571)272-7359. The examiner work schedule is Monday-Thursday, 0730-1830 hrs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, David L. Ometz, can be reached at (571)272-7593.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(571)-273-8300

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703)305-HELP.

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For other technical patent information needs, the Patent Assistance Center can be reached through customer service representatives at the above numbers, Monday through Friday (except federal holidays) from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST/EDT.

The Patent Electronic Business Center (EBC) allows USPTO customers to retrieve data, check the status of pending actions, and submit information and applications. The tools currently available in the Patent EBC are Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) and the Electronic Filing System (EFS). PAIR (<http://pair.uspto.gov>) provides customers direct secure access to their own patent application status information, as well as to general patent information publicly available. EFS allows customers to electronically file patent application documents securely via the Internet. EFS is a system for submitting new utility patent applications and pre-grant publication submissions in electronic publication-ready form. EFS includes software to help customers prepare submissions in extensible Markup Language (XML) format and to assemble the various parts of the application as an electronic submission package. EFS also allows the submission of Computer Readable Format (CRF) sequence listings for pending biotechnology patent applications, which were filed in paper form.

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/BRIAN P. YENKE/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2622

B.P.Y.
09 February 2009